

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 MC-02 ERDA-07 IGA-01

EB-07 COME-00 /096 W

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R 051434Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5383

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

G/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG 3038

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 1172

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL,NL

SUBJECT: SECOND CHAMBER APPROVES 1975 DEFENSE BUDGET

1. WITH ONLY THE COMMUNIST (CPN) AND PACIFIST SOCIALIST (PSP) PARTIES VOTING NO, THE SECOND CHAMBER OF THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT ADOPTED THE 1975 DEFENSE BUDGET MARCH 4.

ATTEMPTS BY THE RADICAL PARTY (PPR) TO ELIMINATE 60 MILLION

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GUILDERS EARMARKED FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE F-104S AND TO DENY AN INCREASE OF 46.5 MILLION GULDERS FOR PERSONNEL

EXPENDITURES (THE LATTER NECESSITATED BY THE GON'S PROMISE TO MAINTAIN CURRENT TROOP LEVELS UNTIL A SATISFACTORY RESULT WAS REACHED IN MBFR TALKS) WERE OVERWHELMINGLY DEFEATED.

2. WHILE ALL DEFENSE LIMITING MOTIONS WERE DEFEATED, LEFT WING FEELINGS REGARDING THE NETHERLANDS' NUCLEAR ROLE WERE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED WHEN THE LABOR (PVDA) AND PPR PARTIES, JOINED BY TWO DJYY MEMBERS SUPPORTED THE CPN AND PSP IN VOTING FOR A CPN MOTION OPPOSING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE F-104'S WITH AN AIRCRAFT CAPABLE OF FULFILLING NUCLEAR TASKS. COMMENTING ON HIS PARTY'S SUPPORT FOR THE MOTION, PVDA SPOKESMAN DANKERT SAID "IT IS A VOTE OF PRINCIPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR TASKS, WE WANT THE REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT TO HAVE A MORE LIMITED ROLE." HIS PVDA COLLEAGUE FRANSSENS SAID "WE HAVE NO FAITH IN THE POSSIBILITY OF PROTECTING THIS COUNTRY BY THREATENING WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS. A SMALL COUNTRY LIKE THE NETHERLANDS, BY REFUSING TO TAKE PART IN NUCLEAR ARMAMENT, CAN POINT THE WAY THE WORLD HAS TO GO."

3. THE ONLY MOTION OF THE DAY TO WIN APPROVAL, WAS ONE OFFERED BY THE LIBERAL PLOEG CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE AMMUNITION STOCKS TO A WAR READINESS LEVEL. PLOEG'S MOTION WAS SUPPORTED BY CENTER AND RIGHT WING PARTIES AND OPPOSED BY THE LEFT.

4. A RADICAL MOTION, WHICH STATED THAT INCLUDING GLIZE-RIJEN AIRBASE IN US CONTINGENCY EUROPEAN BASE PLANNING (COLLOCATED OPERATIONS BASES) WAS UNDESIRABLE, WAS SUPPORTED ONLY BY THE CPN, PSP AND ONE MEMBER OF THE PVDA.
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